

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and further examination are requested.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make a number of editorial revisions thereto. A substitute specification and abstract have been prepared and are submitted herewith. No new matter has been added. Also submitted herewith is a marked-up copy of the substitute specification and abstract indicating the changes incorporated therein.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Saito (US 2002/0034966). Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Saito.

Claims 1-4 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Further, new claims 5-8 have been added.

It is submitted that the above-mentioned rejections are inapplicable to new claims 5-8 for the following reasons.

New claim 5 is patentable over Saito, since claim 5 recites a terminal device including, in part, a housing having a front panel including a slot therein for receiving a wireless module including a transmission and reception antenna; a first antenna unit for connection to the transmission and reception antenna physically or spatially; a second antenna unit connected to the first antenna unit, the second antenna unit for transmitting and receiving radial signals to and from a wireless network; and a cover for accommodating the transmission and reception antenna when the wireless module is received in the slot, the first antenna unit, and the second antenna unit, the cover being attached to the front panel of the housing. Saito fails to disclose or suggest these features of claim 5.

Saito discloses a personal computer 16 having a body 14 including a side face 14A. The side face 14A includes a PC card slot 17 that is capable of receiving a wireless PC communications card 10. The communication card 10 includes an insertion part 11A which slides into the PC card slot 17 and an antenna housing 11B. Saito discloses that the antenna housing 11B can include a number of different embodiments of antennas. In a first embodiment, the antenna housing 11B includes a single inverted-F type flat-plate antenna 22. In a second embodiment, the antenna housing 11B includes first and second inverted-F type flat-plate antennas 33 and 34 installed at a designated interval across the width of the antenna housing

11B. Further, it is noted that the first inverted-F type flat-plate antenna 33 is configured in a manner similar to the inverted-F type flat-plate antenna 22 of the first embodiment. (See page 2, paragraphs [0045] and [0046]; page 3, paragraphs [0050] and [0051]; page 5, paragraphs [0081]-[0085]; and Figures 4, 7, 11 and 12).

In the rejection, the body 14 of the personal computer 16 of Saito is relied upon as corresponding to the housing recited in claim 5. However, claim 5 recites that the housing has a front panel including a slot therein for receiving a wireless module. On the other hand, the side face 14A of the body 14 includes the PC card slot 17 and not the front face of the body 14. As a result, it is clear that Saito fails to disclose or suggest this feature of claim 5.

Further, the antenna housing 11B is relied upon as corresponding to the cover recited in claim 5. However, the claimed cover is recited as being for accommodating the transmission and reception antenna when the wireless module is received in the slot, the first antenna unit, and the second antenna unit, the cover being attached to the front panel of the housing. As mentioned above, the PC card slot 17 is located in the side face 14A of the body 14. Therefore, the antenna housing 11B is clearly not attached to the front face of the body 14 of the personal computer 16.

Also, in relying on the antenna housing 11B as accommodating the transmission and reception antenna, the first antenna unit, and the second antenna unit, it is indicated that the flat-plate antenna 22 of the first embodiment of Saito corresponds to the transmission and reception antenna, and the flat-plate antennas 33 and 34 of the second embodiment correspond to the first and second antenna units. However, it is apparent that the reliance on the flat-plate antennas from the two different embodiments to meet this limitation is improper because there is no disclosure or suggestion in Saito that all three flat-plate antennas 22, 33 and 34 are usable together as would be necessary for the antenna housing 11B to correspond to the claimed cover.

In addition to the combination of the first and second embodiments being improper as failing to provide some rationale for their combination, the disclosure in Saito implies that the use of the flat-plate antenna 22 is mutually exclusive from the use of the first and second flat-plate antennas 33 and 34 in paragraph [0085] which indicates that the flat-plate antenna 33 is configured in a manner similar to the flat-plate antenna 22 of the first embodiment. Therefore, the inclusion of both the flat-plate antenna 22 and the flat-plate antenna 33 would be redundant and not obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. As a result, it is apparent that the first and

second embodiments of Saito cannot be combined in a manner such that the antenna housing 11B corresponds to the claimed cover.

Based on the above discussion, it is clear that Saito fails to disclose or suggest the present invention as recited in claim 5.

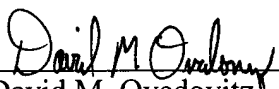
As for claim 7, it is patentable over Saito for reasons similar to those set forth above in support of claim 5. That is, claim 7 recites a terminal device including, in part, a housing having a front panel including a slot therein for a wireless module including a transmission and reception antenna; a first antenna unit physically or spatially connected to the transmission and reception antenna; a second antenna unit connected to the first antenna unit, the second antenna unit for transmitting and receiving radio signals to and from the wireless network; and a cover accommodating the transmission and reception antenna, the first antenna unit, and the second antenna unit, the cover being attached to the front panel of the housing, which features are not disclosed or suggested by Saito.

Because of the above-mentioned distinctions, it is believed clear that claims 5-8 are not anticipated by Saito. Furthermore, it is submitted that the distinctions are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would not have been motivated to modify Saito or to make any combination of the references of record in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claims 5-8. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 5-8 are clearly allowable over the prior art of record.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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